

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 and 15 were pending in the application at the time of the Office Action. The Office Action rejected claims 12, 13, and 15-20 as being anticipated by or obvious over cited art and specifically allowed claims 1-11. By this response, Applicant has cancelled rejected claims 12, 13, and 15-20; thus only allowed claims 1-11 remain pending.

Applicant notes that while claims 12, 13, and 15-20 have been cancelled herein, such cancellations have been made in the interest of expediting the allowance of this case. Notwithstanding, Applicants, may, on further consideration, determine that claims of broader scope than those now presented are supported. Accordingly, Applicant hereby reserves the right to file one or more continuing applications with claims broader in scope than the claims now presented. Furthermore, Applicant notes that the lack of remarks herein are not intended to constitute, and should not be construed as, an acquiescence, on the part of the Applicant: as to the purported teachings or prior art status of the cited references; or as to the characterization of the cited references advanced by the Examiner. Applicant reserves the right to challenge the purported teaching and prior art status of the cited references at any appropriate time.

In view of the foregoing, applicant respectfully thanks the Examiner for the allowance of claims 1-11 and submits that the application is now in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any of the following fees that may be applicable to this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-3178: (1) any filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16; (2) any patent application and reexamination processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17; and/or (3) any post issuance fees under 37 CFR § 1.20. In addition, if any additional extension of time is required, which has not otherwise been requested, please consider this a petition therefor and charge any additional fees that may be required to Deposit Account No. 23-3178.

In the event there remains any impediment to allowance of the claims which could be clarified in a telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initiate such an interview with the undersigned.

Dated this 9th day of October, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

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